

AT THE THEATRES

COLUMBIA.

"The Amazons."
Interest in the presentation of Sir Arthur Wing Pinero's farcical comedy, "The Amazons," by the Columbia Players this week is two-fold. In the first place it affords exacting test of the versatility of several members of this most excellent aggregation of players. In the second place the recent revival of "The Amazons," at the Empire Theater, New York, with Billie Burke as the star of the presentation, has proven one of the most enthralling entertainments offered during this long season of unprecedented revivals, despite the fact that the principal figures of the play are little better than dancing dummies.

From the moment of the first curtain, when the Marchioness of Castledown explains to the Rev. Roger Minchin that she has been so woefully disappointed that of her three children no one of them has had the good grace to be a boy that she has brought all three of them to the estate of young womanhood dressed in male attire, and following the pursuits of young athletes, one gains the impression that Pinero has cut his characters out of cardboard, sufficiently substantial to be twirled roughly over the stage by a clever managerial hand without falling into a thousand pieces. The comedy is lacking in that sympathy which even a farcical play must have to hold the attention of the audience.

That the Columbia patrons gave marked attention to the performance last night was due, I take it, to the appearance of their favorites in roles so dissimilar to custom that it was impossible not to be highly entertained. There was Helen Holmes, for instance, as the Lady Kestrel, quite willing to yield herself to her mother's whim that she impersonate a man until love found its way into her heart, and she found that a woman's kingdom is the better part. It is a pleasure at all times to listen to Miss Holmes' voice, which is singularly clear, round, resonant, and sympathetic. Her voice and personality have reminded more than one of Julia Marlowe, a suggestion which was particularly insistent in the last act of "The Amazons" last night, when she made the transition from male attire to a most charming evening gown. So slightly feminine is Miss Holmes that her boyish clothes of the first two acts impressed as an incongruity.

Dorothy Bernard made a delightfully fun-boyish, devil-may-care Lady Thomastown, who seemed to get as much delight out of her impersonation as she gave her audience, which is saying a good deal.

Jessie Glendinning was the other sister—the Lady Wilhelm—she was frankly dissatisfied with her mother's methods from the rise of the first curtain, and thought it would be pretty good to just be the girl who was play the guitar and sing love ditties in sentimental fashion. She plays the role easily—all except the love ditties, which would go very well if only Miss Glendinning had a voice.

Frances Young was hampered last night in her portrayal of the Marchioness by a somewhat nervous uncertainty of her lines, while Carrie Thatcher handled the small role of the physical trainer of the three girls with her usual capability. Of the masculine side of the cast, Everett Butterfield, who played the part of the Earl of Twickenham, whom he made the cowardly cad we are accustomed to conceive in the picture.

A. H. Van Buren, as the Vicomte Litterby, plays a leading romantic role with authority and magnetism, and Stanley James again treats his audience this week to a finished character study in the role of the "Comte de Gravel," who woos and wins the Lady Wilhelm, thus frustrating the hope of the eccentric Marchioness that she may always be able to make her young daughters imitate the sons whom she vainly desired.

George W. Barber was seen as Roger Minchin, Jack Ellis as a servant, Willard Robertson as the game keeper, and John M. Kline as a poacher, all of which characters are of small importance in the main theme of the play, but were so presented as to paint in a harmonious background to the picture.

NEW NATIONAL.
"Madam Butterfly" by Aborn English Grand Opera Company.

An exceptionally fine performance of Puccini's masterpiece, "Madam Butterfly," was given by the Aborn English Grand Opera Company at the New National Theater last night before a capacity audience. The orchestra, considering the instrumental limitations imposed upon it, did wonders with the intricate score. Conductor Lyford had his men under excellent control, and was especially happy in the interpretation of the piano passages. The ringing applause at the close of the second act was quite as much a tribute to the proficiency of the conductor and his band as to the singers.

Clarity, for last night a line was always waiting for a chance.
As of old, the dancing pavilion was the center of attraction, and Charles O. Miller's augmented orchestra was forced to enclose almost every number. The mothers and children predominate in the day seasons at the park, and yesterday afternoon the younger patrons alternated between the Midway Merry-go-round, and the which some of the four ones almost refused to leave at all.

The Sunday concerts drew a large attendance.

COSMOS.

Whitney's Operatic Dolls, one of the most unique novelties of the season, in which four tiny figures with human heads and excellent voices, framed in electric lights, furnish a comedy musical number, assisted by Mr. Whitney, who introduces the several features in song, is one of the bright particular numbers of an excellent bill at the Cosmos Theater this week. Closely crowded the dolls for first honors come the Pava Musical MacLaren, four attractive lasses in Highland costume, with a brawny Scot, similarly attired, who introduce a variety of musical selections, including a splendid brass quartet, dance a leonine Scotch fling, and an equally good American trio clog, and introduce an orchestra drummer girl, whose versatility seemed unlimited.

Spokane, a remarkable Russian boy violinist, plays classic numbers with wonderful clarity that has attracted the highest musical appreciation elsewhere. Graham, Cullen, a trio of comedians, and a cabaret selection; Nathan and Murphy in a difficult as well as laughable roller skating specialty, and Red and Hilton, one of the best song and repartee teams heard at the Cosmos this season, complete the bill.

The Pacific Weekly Review features the unveiling of the Lanley memorial at the Smithsonian Institute, and a series of photoplays furnish additional entertainment.

BELASCO.

"The Making of the Panama Canal."
As pictured by the Kinemacolor Company of America, drew a capacity audience to the Belasco last night where these interesting films, in conjunction with several showing actual scenes of the Balkan war, began a week's engagement.

Of the Balkan war pictures, which are shown first, the most unique and interesting were those picturing what is properly described as an "Animated Map," showing the political history of the Balkan States from 1300 to the present time. This map shows the rise and decline of Turkish power in the Balkans in a most graphic manner and illustrates to a remarkable degree the possibilities of trick photography.

An excellent idea of the Greek fighting forces was obtained through the pictures showing the Grecian infantry at maneuvers, and those picturing life in the Grecian navy. Then were shown the troops enroute for Preveza and the landing of supplies at that point.

In "The Making of the Panama Canal" pictures the Kinemacolor Company has been successful in obtaining many interesting scenes showing the men and machines engaged in this great undertaking. The electric cement conveyors, the huge suction dredge, the marine drills and ladder are shown in operation, and there is pictured the drilling and blasting and subsequent explosion of some twelve tons of powder used in removing a dyke.

The giant excavators, capable of handling three tons of rock at a time, the building of a concrete arch, the sinking of concrete piles near the entrance to Gatun Lake, together with a view of the Gatun Locks, and the swinging open of the first gate in the canal proved interesting.

Views of Miraflores Locks, of a seven-ton steam shovel at work, of the numerous cranes and cranes in action, and a remarkable series of pictures showing the dynamiting of a hill at San Pablo were shown. In and around the cities of Ancon and Panama many wonderful tropical scenes were Kinemacolor in all their beauty, the program closing with a second "Animated Map" showing the trade routes of the world as they will be affected by the completion and use of the canal. The pictures, which will be shown twice daily, are explained by Edward Freilberger.

CASINO.

A very laughable farce comedy, entitled "His Mother," presented by Louis Bates and a clever company of players at the Casino Theater this week, so amused the four audiences yesterday that after each performance the company was obliged to acknowledge numerous curtain calls. The fun arises from the

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If you are down with rheumatism; if you sneeze, feel chilled, are choked with catarrh, have a cough, or your skin is pimply and irritated with rash, eczema, or any other blood disorder, just remember that almost all the life of life comes from impure blood. And you can easily give your blood a good, thorough cleansing, a bath, by using S. S. S. There is no other blood purifier so effective as the blood of blood impurities. No matter how badly they attack the system, or how unhealthily becomes the skin, just remember there is one ingredient in S. S. S. that so stimulates the cellular tissues throughout the body that each part selects its own essential nutriment from the blood.

This means that all decay, all breaking down of the tissues, is checked and repair work begins. S. S. S. has such a specific influence on all local cells as to preserve their mutual welfare and afford a proper relative assistance to each other. More attention is being given to constructive medicine than ever before and S. S. S. is the highest achievement in this line. For many years people relied upon mercury, iodine, potash, arsenic, physical cathartics and "dope" as remedies for blood sickness, but now the pure botanical S. S. S. is their safeguard. You can get S. S. S. in any drug store, but insist upon having it. The great Swift Laboratory in Atlanta, Ga., prepares this famous blood purifier, and you should take no chance by permitting any one to recommend a substitute. And if your blood condition is such that you would like to consult a specialist freely and confidentially, address the Medical Department, The Swift Specific Company, 189 Swift Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.

substitution of a young man's friend for his mother, who is out of town, when his sweetheart arrives. The Three Dreamers, metropolitan cabaret entertainers, have a whirlwind of specialties that have amused New York audiences, including some lively songs and clever repartees, with jokes thrown in.

June Le Veay charms both with her personality and her method of singing pretty songs, and Margo's Mannix, in an elaborate offering, present an entertaining vaudeville bill of specialties on a miniature stage that catches the fancy of the children and makes some of the grown folks laugh.

POLIS.

"Merely Mary Ann."

The Polis Players undertook last night to deal with Israel Zangwill's sentimental comedy, "Merely Mary Ann," and, in the words of the prophet, they ate it up. For thorough grasp of the requirements and adequate treatment of character the performance must be called the most triumphant opening of the Polis stock season. The company fitted the cast to a piece, each member appearing to excellent advantage in a distinctive part.

Artificial and defective though the play doubtless is, and as treacherous with sentiment as Peter's tea in the second act, it makes a strong appeal through the very extravagance of the romantic plot and the cleverness with which it is made plausible.

The love story of a "slavery" and a talented musician of aristocratic birth, whose

boots she cleans, is the theme of the play. Laurence, played by Mr. Bergen, will not stoop to write scabrous music, but finds inspiration for his Coda in F in the naive poetic cravings of the soul of Mary Ann.

Captivated by her simple words, he has dreamed of sharing a cottage with her, when, according to the manner of fairy tales, she falls heir to a tremendous fortune. Mary Ann is bitterly disappointed when her hero departs, unable to face the situation in a major house instead of a cottage.

After six years the final act shows the reconciliation of the now famous composer and the miraculously cultivated woman of the world of wealth and fashion.

Miss Jewel as Mary Ann deserves the highest praise for her interpretation, succeeding well in the expression of a crudely bred but sensitive personality. Mr. Bergen was competent, as always, but even he could not make convincing some of the author's inert colloquies.

Dudley Hawley gives an interesting portrayal of Laurence's musical companion, who has taken to the sea trade. Miss Helen Tracy, in the part of a cockney landlady, has an exceptional opportunity to display her talent, and Miss Roundhill, as her daughter, Rosie, was decidedly amusing. Mr. Kent, as a country vicar, was not long on the stage, but made the most of every line and action to the great enjoyment of the audience.

Frank Shannon had a small Irish bit in the first act, and Graham Valley was Lord Tottinham in the last. Thomas Williams was seen as Herr Brahmsen, a music publisher.

The usual intermissions prolonged the performance to a late hour.

FIRE AT GHEENT EXPOSITION.

Blaze Sweeps Grounds and Does \$50,000 Damage.

Ghent, Belgium, May 26.—Fire which did damage estimated at \$50,000 swept the grounds of the Ghent exhibition today. Several buildings with their contents were badly damaged.

The fire originated in the kitchen of a restaurant and spread rapidly, as most of the buildings on the grounds are constructed of wood.

BOY VIOLINIST PERFORMING HERE



Photo by White, New York.
ROBERT SPOKANY.
Thirteen years old, who is an attraction at the Cosmos.

PAY YOUR TAXES NOW.

This is the last week in which you may pay your real and personal property taxes without penalty.

If you do not pay these taxes some day this week the penalty of 1 per cent each month will be added on the first day of every month.

You save yourself money and the tax collector's office trouble by paying real and personal property taxes on one of the five days remaining.

Licenses and special taxes and assessments are payable in November and April.

TWO PHYSICIANS HURRY TO GOMPER'S BEDSIDE

President of American Federation of Labor Reported Seriously Ill at Atlantic City.

President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, is seriously ill in Atlantic City. It was reported here last night. His physician, Dr. J. S. Allen, accompanied by a specialist, will go to Atlantic City early this morning.

Mr. Gompers has been ill in Atlantic City for some time, and was said to be on the road to recovery. He suffered a relapse Sunday, however, and yesterday his condition became so grave that his physician was called by telephone and asked to hurry to his side with a specialist.

LINERS IN COLLISION.

Two Ships Badly Damaged in Crash on Spanish Coast.

Vigo, Spain, May 26.—The steamship Taurus collided today with the steamer Inna of the northwestern coast of Spain and both were badly damaged, according to a wireless telegram picked up here from the Peninsula and Oriental liner Nyansa. The Taurus was able to proceed toward Coruna, and the Nyansa started at top speed to aid the Inna. The Inna is a British ship of 1,904 tons, sailing from London.

The position of the Taurus became so perilous that her passengers were transferred to the British ship Garth Castle, bound from Wellington to London.

Rescue Workers Report.

The American Rescue Workers, formerly the American Salvation Army, furnished during the seventy-two days ending April 26, according to their report issued yesterday, meals to 7,900 persons. Beds were provided for 1,261 men, women, and children. Expenditures totaled \$1,628.

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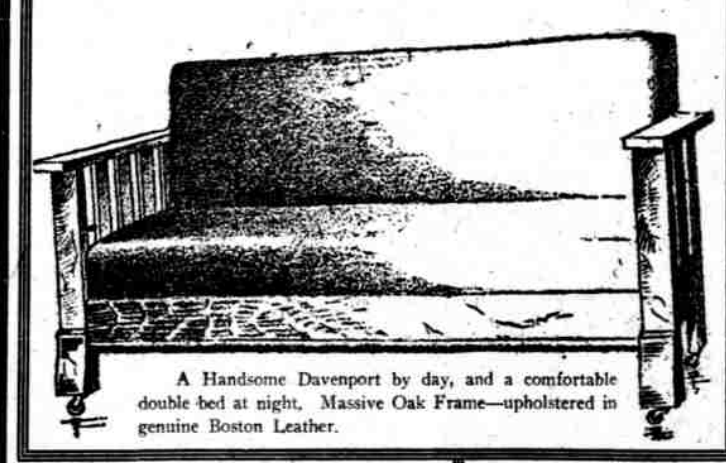
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